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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/540,039	06/22/2005	Patrick Jelf Crowley	70192	8693

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SYNGENTA CROP PROTECTION, INC.
PATENT AND TRADEMARK DEPARTMENT
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EXAMINER

BALASUBRAMANIAN, VENKATARAMAN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1624

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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09/07/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/540,039

Applicant(s)

CROWLEY ET AL.

Examiner

/Venkataraman
Balasubramanian/

Art Unit

1624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 August 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 14 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13, 15 and 16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6/22/2005, 8/1/2005, 7/25/2007.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION***Election/Restrictions***

Applicant's election with traverse of Group I, claims 1-13, 15 and 16, drawn to compound of formula I, process of making, composition and method of use, in the reply filed on 8/2/2007 is acknowledged. Claim 14 is withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected subject matter.

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

The traversal is on the ground(s) that the PCT examiner did consider lack of unity and that it would not be serious search burden to search both groups. This is not found persuasive for reasons of record. As noted in the previous office action,

The requirement for unity of invention is two-fold: (1) common utility and (2) sharing a substantial structural feature disclosed as being essential to the utility. Both these conditions are to be met with. Instant claims do not meet both these conditions. As for applicants' traversal that that the PCT examiner did considered lack unity, applicants should note that the present application is US application and the restriction requirement practice need not adhere to the PCT examination. In fact, search is not an issue in 371 application entering the national stage. The two criteria set forth in the previous restriction requirement, namely a substantially common structure essential for

Art Unit: 1624

utility and the common utility, are factors to be considered in such cases. The compounds of , Group II, claim 14 are diverse, do not have the substantially common structural feature essential for the utility as these are intermediates and do not share the same use as the final product. Thus, as noted before, both these criteria are not met with.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

Claims 1-13 , 15 and 16 are under consideration.

Information Disclosure Statement

References cited and provided in the Information Disclosure Statements, filed on 6/22/2005, 8/1/2005 & 7/25/2007, are made of record.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 1-13, 15 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schaper et al., US 5,821,244.

Schaper et al., teaches several condensed heterocyclic compounds of formula Ic as fungicides. See column 1, formula Ic and note the definition of various variable groups, A, B, D, E, X, Y and Q. Note the choices of A, B, D and E include nitrogen and carbon. Note with when Y is a bond, X is NR, with a given Q choice and other variables the compounds recited in the formula include instant compounds. See column 2-8 for various preferred embodiments and column 19-30 for various compounds made.

Schaper differs from instant claims in not permitting pyridine-1,2,4-triazine by limiting the choices of A, B, D and E to include maximum of two nitrogens.

However, given the fact that each of the A, B, D, E can have nitrogen as a choice and still show fungicide activity is clearly indicative of the equivalency of these positions.

Hence, one trained in the art would be motivated to make all the possible combinations of A, B, D, E choices for the said ring including the 1,2,4, triazine core and

Art Unit: 1624

expect these compounds to have fungicidal activity in view of the equivalency outlined above. See *In re KSR International Co. v. Teleflex Inc.*, 550 US-, 82USPQ2D 1385, 2007.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication from the examiner should be addressed to Venkataraman Balasubramanian (Bala) whose telephone number is (571) 272-0662. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 8.00 AM to 6.00 PM. The Supervisory Patent Examiner (SPE) of the art unit 1624 is James O. Wilson, whose telephone number is 571-272-0661. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned (571) 273-8300. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1600.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAG. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-2 17-9197 (toll-free).


Venkataraman Balasubramanian

9/3/2007